

Filed for intro on 03/29/95
House Bill _____
By _____

Senate No. SJR0149
By Henry

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Dave A. Alexander, Sr.

WHEREAS, it was with great sadness and a deep sense of loss that the members of this General Assembly learned of the death of Dave A. Alexander, Sr., a highly respected attorney, noted political figure, and former floor leader of the Tennessee House of Representatives; and

WHEREAS, knowledgeable observers have said that Mr. Alexander clearly was one of the most outstanding litigators to emerge in Middle Tennessee during this century; and

WHEREAS, Dave Alexander began his colorful life in Middle Tennessee, the son of the late Truman Hudson, a syndicated columnist and political writer for The Tennessean, and Helen Almon Alexander; he was a 1938 graduate of Vanderbilt University and a 1941 graduate of Vanderbilt Law School; and

WHEREAS, after graduation, Mr. Alexander accepted a call to the military and served valiantly with the Honor Guard of the U.S.S. Missouri during World War II; and

WHEREAS, four years later, Mr. Alexander was elected to the General Assembly in our great state, where he served with distinction as a state representative and was confidently selected by his colleagues to serve as floor leader; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Alexander continued his great service to the people of our state by assisting Governor Gordon Browning as his personal aide in the 1950's and Governor Frank Clement; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Alexander may be best known for his tenacity as a trial lawyer and his dedication to the ethics of this profession; this respected attorney has been described as "very protective of his clients" and was always known for placing his client's best interests ahead of his own; and

WHEREAS, friends and colleagues also state that Mr. Alexander "was fair with other lawyers, fair with his clients and fair with other people", characteristics that earned him the utmost respect from others in the legal profession and the community; and

WHEREAS, described as a "true professional", Mr. Alexander represented clients throughout Middle Tennessee and North Alabama during his illustrious legal career; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Alexander won acclaim from fellow attorneys for his brilliant defense of Nicholas Tweel during the jury-tampering trial of Teamsters Union president Jimmy Hoffa. Tried in the U.S. District Court in Chattanooga in the 1960's, Tweel was the only defendant acquitted in the famous case; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Alexander also skillfully and courageously represented the victims of the 1976 railroad tank car explosion in Waverly, Tennessee that killed 30 people; and

WHEREAS, this celebrated attorney, although aggressive in the courtroom, was kind, considerate, and extremely generous throughout his seventy-nine years, giving unreservedly of himself to make the community he loved a better place; and

WHEREAS, the dean of Vanderbilt's Law School called Mr. Alexander one of the school's "strongest supporters", as he unselfishly gave the school paintings by Picasso and Rembrandt that he had acquired in Europe, in addition to considerable monetary contributions; and

WHEREAS, his involvement with charitable and philanthropic organizations was extensive; he was a devoted member of the Rotary and Lions clubs and the director of the Tennessee Baptist Children's Homes in Brentwood; and

WHEREAS, always a strong supporter of professional organizations, Mr. Alexander was one of the founders and past presidents of the Williamson County Bar Association and was a member of the American Bar Association and the Tennessee Bar Association; and

WHEREAS, his many accomplishments and accolades aside, Mr. Alexander was most appreciative of the love and companionship he shared with his wife, Jane Bagley Alexander, and their four children: Suzanne Silva of Franklin, Sarah Green of Atlanta, Julie Alexander of Jackson, and Dr. Dave Alexander, Jr. of Nashville; and

WHEREAS, although Dave Alexander has relinquished this life for a far better existence, his integrity and astute professionalism, enhanced by intellect and considerable talent, will stand as a legacy in the history of Middle Tennessee and our great state; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, That we hereby pause to mourn the death of Dave A. Alexander, Sr., while we also celebrate the life of this great man who has meant so much to Tennessee.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we express our heartfelt condolences to Mr. Alexander's family and friends.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.